

Exploration and Discovery

History And Geography · Practice Test · 25 Questions

1. Which explorer led the first expedition to successfully circumnavigate the globe, completed in 1522?

- A) Vasco da Gama
- B) Ferdinand Magellan
- C) James Cook
- D) Christopher Columbus

2. In 1911, which explorer became the first to reach the Geographic South Pole?

- A) Robert Falcon Scott
- B) Ernest Shackleton
- C) Roald Amundsen
- D) Douglas Mawson

3. What was the primary goal of the Lewis and Clark expedition commissioned by Thomas Jefferson in 1804?

- A) To establish colonies in Alaska
- B) To map the Louisiana Purchase and find a water route to the Pacific
- C) To convert indigenous tribes to Christianity
- D) To discover gold in the Rocky Mountains

4. Which mountain range was Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay the first to successfully summit in 1953?

- A) K2
- B) Mount Everest
- C) Annapurna
- D) Kangchenjunga

5. Which explorer is credited with being the first European to encounter the Pacific Ocean while crossing the Isthmus of Panama in 1513?

- A) Hernán Cortés
- B) Vasco Núñez de Balboa
- C) Francisco Pizarro
- D) Amerigo Vespucci

6. The 'Age of Discovery' was heavily influenced by which country's early maritime advancements under Prince Henry the Navigator?

- A) Spain
- B) Portugal
- C) England
- D) France

7. In 1960, who were the two men that descended to the bottom of the Mariana Trench in the bathyscaphe Trieste?

- A) Jacques Cousteau and Sylvia Earle
- B) Don Walsh and Jacques Piccard
- C) Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin
- D) William Beebe and Otis Barton

8. Which explorer spent years searching for the Northwest Passage and eventually died during his final 1845 expedition?

- A) John Franklin
- B) Henry Hudson
- C) Martin Frobisher
- D) James Ross

9. The Silk Road was an ancient network of trade routes primarily linking China with which region?

- A) The Americas
- B) The Mediterranean
- C) Sub-Saharan Africa
- D) Australia

10. Which 19th-century explorer is famous for his extensive travels in Central Asia and his quest to find the source of the Nile?

- A) David Livingstone
- B) Richard Francis Burton
- C) Henry Morton Stanley
- D) John Hanning Speke

11. What is the name of the strait located between Russia and Alaska that explorers historically sought as a maritime route?

- A) Magellan Strait
- B) Bering Strait
- C) Davis Strait
- D) Torres Strait

12. Which famous botanist and explorer accompanied James Cook on his first voyage aboard the HMS Endeavour?

- A) Joseph Banks
- B) Charles Darwin
- C) Alexander von Humboldt
- D) Carl Linnaeus

13. What expedition, led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, was notably aided by the Shoshone guide Sacagawea?

- A) Corps of Discovery
- B) Arctic Expedition
- C) Great Trigonometrical Survey
- D) Voyage of the Beagle

14. Which explorer is officially recognized as the first person to reach the North Pole in 1909?

- A) Robert Peary
- B) Frederick Cook
- C) Matthew Henson
- D) Richard Byrd

15. In what year did the Apollo 11 mission successfully land the first humans on the Moon?

- A) 1967
- B) 1969
- C) 1971
- D) 1973

16. The HMS Beagle, famous for carrying Charles Darwin on his scientific expedition, primarily focused on mapping which continent's coastline?

- A) Africa
- B) South America
- C) Asia
- D) Australia

17. Which explorer completed the first solo non-stop circumnavigation of the globe in 1969?

- A) Robin Knox-Johnston
- B) Francis Chichester
- C) Bernard Moitessier
- D) Joshua Slocum

18. What major geographical feature did Ibn Battuta travel across extensively during his 30-year journey throughout the 14th century?

- A) The Atlantic Ocean
- B) The Dar al-Islam
- C) The Andes Mountains
- D) The Arctic Circle

19. Who was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932?

- A) Beryl Markham
- B) Amelia Earhart
- C) Jacqueline Cochran
- D) Harriet Quimby

20. The 'Great Trigonometrical Survey' was a project that aimed to accurately map which country?

- A) India
- B) Brazil
- C) Canada
- D) Australia

21. Which desert did explorer Wilfred Thesiger famously cross in the 1940s, documenting the life of the Bedouin?

- A) Sahara
- B) Gobi
- C) Empty Quarter (Rub' al Khali)
- D) Kalahari

22. Which 15th-century Chinese admiral led seven massive naval expeditions throughout the Indian Ocean?

- A) Zheng He
- B) Kublai Khan
- C) Marco Polo
- D) Genghis Khan

23. What was the name of the ship used by Ernest Shackleton during his ill-fated 1914-1917 Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition?

- A) Discovery
- B) Endurance
- C) Terra Nova
- D) Fram

24. Which explorer wrote 'The Travels of Marco Polo' after his extensive journeys in the Mongol Empire?

- A) Ibn Battuta
- B) Marco Polo
- C) Christopher Columbus
- D) Giovanni da Pian del Carpine

25. Which expedition successfully climbed the world's second-highest mountain, K2, for the first time in 1954?

- A) Italian expedition
- B) British expedition
- C) American expedition
- D) French expedition